GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
DEFENCE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1895
ANSWERED ON:30.11.2000
CASUAL APPROACH TO NATIONAL SECURITY
TUFANI SAROJ

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have taken note of the news- item captioned Casual Approach to Security Disastrous: Subramanium appearing in 'The Hindu' dated October 29, 2000;

(b) if so, whether the Government propose to bifurcate the Office of the Principal Secretary to the Prime Minister and the Office of the Advisor of the National Security Council; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor and the steps being taken to streamline the functioning of National Security Council? ANSWER

Answer

MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES)

(a) to (c): The Government is aware of the views of Shri K. Subrahmanyam on various issues relating to national security management, that have appeared in the media in the recent past. Some of these views have also been included in the Kargil Review Committee Report. The Government has taken note of the views of Shri K. Subrahmanyam on all the issues. It is noteworthy that a Group of Ministers (GoM) has already been set up by the Government on 17th April 2000 to thoroughly review the nationalsecurity system in its entirety and in particular, to consider the recommendations of Kargil Review Committee and formulate specific proposals for implementation. Keeping in view the wide scope of the terms of reference of the Group of Ministers and in accordance with its mandate, the GoM appointed four Task Forces, one each in the area of intelligence apparatus, internal security, border management and defence management. These Task Forces have since submitted their reports to the GoM. The GoM would after consideration of various issues including those related to the sub- structures of National Security Council, formulate a set of proposals for improving the national security system.